



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Robert C.U. YU et al.

Group Art Unit: 1732

Application No.: 10/743,179

Examiner: M. DANIELS

Filed: December 23, 2003

Docket No.: 118087

For: IMPROVED STRESS RELEASE METHOD AND APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Election of Species Requirement mailed January 10, 2007, please consider the following.

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application, and are subject to an Election of Species Requirement.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicants hereby elect species A, i.e., where the first wrinkle-reducing roller is located in the process prior to the heating step.

This election is made with traverse.

In further response to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicants respectfully assert that at least claims 1 and 16 are generic. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that at least claims 1-9, 11-20, and 22-30 read on the elected species.


Applicants traverse the election of species requirement on the ground that the generic claims are not so broad as to place an undue burden on the Patent Office to search and examine the full scope of the claims. Rather, Applicants respectfully assert that search and examination

of the entire application could be conducted without undue burden on the Examiner, thus avoiding delay and expense to Applicants.

Applicants further understand, however, that upon search, examination and allowance of the elected species, search and examination will continue as to the non-elected species within the scope of the generic claims.

Early and favorable consideration of the application are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the application, or any suggestions to expedite prosecution, she is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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JAO:JSA

Date: January 30, 2007

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